



Robert Bentley
GOVERNOR

**ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

AERONAUTICS BUREAU
1409 COLISEUM BOULEVARD
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36110
PHONE (334) 242-6820
FAX (334) 353-6540



John R. Cooper
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

August 1, 2011

The Honorable Robert L. Hembree, Jr.
Mayor of Guntersville
341 Gunter Avenue
Guntersville, Alabama 35976

**Subject: Annual Inspection Report
Guntersville Municipal Airport**

Dear Mayor Hembree:

An inspection of the Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on July 20, 2011. The purpose of the inspection was to update the information currently on file regarding the airport and to ascertain compliance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation governing licensed public-use airports within the State of Alabama.

Attached you will find a copy of the Annual Inspection Report for the airport. As noted in the report the airport meets the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. The license is issued with the restriction of Daylight operations only until a lighted windsock has been placed.

If you should have any questions concerning the inspection or corrective actions, please do not hesitate to contact the Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820.

Sincerely,

John C. Eagerton IV, D.P.A.
Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

Copy: Mr. Rans Black, FAA/ADO
Mr. Jeffrey A. Redmill, P.E., BWS&C

ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT

July 20, 2011



JOE STARNES FIELD
GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA

**ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT
GUNTERSVILLE MUNICIPAL (JOE STARNES FIELD) AIRPORT
GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA**

July 20, 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	PAGE 1
INSPECTION METHODOLOGY.....	PAGE 1
LICENSE STATUS.....	PAGE 2
APPROACH / DEPARTURE PATHS.....	PAGE 2
PRIMARY SURFACE.....	PAGE 3
RUNWAY SAFETY AREA.....	PAGE 4
AIRPORT MARKINGS.....	PAGE 4
WIND DIRECTION INDICATOR.....	PAGE 5
AIRPORT LIGHTING.....	PAGE 6
RUNWAY, TAXIWAY AND APRON CONDITIONS.....	PAGE 7
FUELING AREA REQUIREMENTS.....	PAGE 7
PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.....	PAGE 8
SUMMARY.....	PAGE 9
APPENDIX 1.....	PAGE 10

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

Introduction

Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c). The department may perform such acts, issue and amend such orders and make, promulgate, or amend general or special rules, regulations, and procedures and establish minimum standards, consistent with the provisions of this article as it shall deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article and to perform its duties hereunder, all commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest, health, welfare, and safety. (Act 2000-220, 10.)

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c) an inspection of the Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport was conducted by Mr. Robert K. Heartsill of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on July 20, 2011.

The corrective actions that may be prescribed in this inspection report do not relieve the airport owner from compliance with any other Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may be applicable. It is the responsibility of the airport owner to be aware of and obey all Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may have a bearing on the corrective actions that may be specified in this report.

Inspection Methodology

The inspection of the required State Approach/Departure Path and Federal Runway Protection Zones was accomplished by the use of approved engineering methods and equipment. The angles, locations and heights of trees or other objects within these areas were derived by the use of a Theodolite and electronic distance measuring device.

All other areas of the inspection were conducted visually and photographed for reference purposes.

The FAA Airport Design Standards referred to in this report were taken from the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) dated March 2006.

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

License Status

Code of Alabama 23-1-375(a). ...a person or municipality may not operate an airport, restricted landing area, or other air navigation facility without a license issued by the department.

Based upon the findings of the inspection conducted on July 20, 2011 it was determined that the airport meets the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. The license is issued in the Public Use category with a restriction of Daylight operations only until the lighted windsock is replaced.

The inspection was conducted on the airport under the provisions of the Administrative Code for the following areas:

1. Approach and Departure Paths Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(1) (See Appendix 1)

State Licensing Standards

- ➔ For all hard surface runways the approach and departure path begins 200 feet from the runway end (runway threshold).
- ➔ The approach and departure path for all runways is centered along the extended runway centerline and extends for 1000 feet.
- ➔ For all hard surface runways with a displaced threshold, the approach and departure path begins at the point of displacement (See Appendix 2).
- ➔ The approach and departure path for all runways slopes up at a ratio of 20:1.
- ➔ All penetrations of the approach and departure paths, whether natural or manmade, constitute an obstruction to navigation and must be removed.
- ➔ The land beneath the approach and departure path must be controlled by the airport owner. This is accomplished by ownership of the property in fee simple or by written perpetual agreement with the owner of the land.

Inspection Results

- ➔ Runway 3 – Due to the displaced threshold the approach is unobstructed and meets licensing requirements.
- ➔ Runway 21 is unobstructed and meets licensing requirements.

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

Photo 1



Approach to Runway 3 from the displaced threshold (802 feet from runway end.)

Photo 2



Approach to Runway 21

2. Primary Surface Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(2)

State Licensing Standards

- Primary Surface (See Appendix 1): The primary surface is 250 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline and extends 200 feet past the end of the marked runway. The primary surface is required to be free of all obstructions, manmade or natural. The only allowable objects are runway

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

lights, guidance signs, or navigation equipment that by function is required to be within the primary surface boundaries.

Inspection Results

- The Primary Surface meets licensing requirements.

3. Runway Safety Area Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(3)

State Licensing Standards

- Runway Safety Area (Appendix 1): All runways are required to maintain an obstruction free area adjacent to each runway. This area is 120 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline, and extends for a distance of 200 feet past the runway end. The area must be compacted and graded smooth with no ruts, humps, depressions or other potentially hazardous surface variations. The slope along the longitudinal centerline shall not exceed a rise or fall of three percent in elevation relative to the runway end elevation. The lip from the top of the pavement to the grade adjacent to the runway should not exceed 3 inches.

Inspection Results

- The Runway Safety Area meets licensing requirements.

4. Airport Markings Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(4)

State Licensing Standards

- Airport Markings: All runways are required to be marked in a manner identifying the boundaries of the landing areas. The runway markings must be painted white and be maintained in a legible condition.

Inspection Results

- The markings are in GOOD condition.

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

Photo 3



Runway Identifier markings of Runway 21

5. Wind Direction Indicator Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(5)

State Licensing Standards

- ➔ Wind Direction Indicators: All airports are required to have an operational wind direction indicator. It must be installed in a highly visible area and free from obstructions to ensure true wind direction and velocity. Night operations require the indicator be lighted.

Inspection Results

Maintenance

- ➔ The wind direction indicator assembly located east of the Runway 3 threshold within a segmented circle was destroyed during the recent tornado.
- ➔ The wind direction indicator located between the taxiway and runway is not lighted for night operations.
- ➔ The airport is NOTAMed closed to night operations due to the lack of a lighted wind direction indicator.

Required Action

- ➔ Replace the missing windsock assembly.
- ➔ Light the remaining windsock for night operations.

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

- Close the airport to night operations until a lighted windsock is available

Photo 4



Unlit windsock assembly near taxiway

6. Airport Lighting Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(6)

State Licensing Standards

- Airport Lighting: Runway lights and a lighted wind direction indicator are required for night operations. A rotating beacon is suggested. All runway, threshold, and taxiway lighting shall be maintained in operational condition and shall not be obscured by natural growth such as grass and/or weeds.

Inspection Results

- The airport lighting system was inspected and found to be operational.

Maintenance

- There must be a lighted wind indicator on the airport in order to meet the minimum licensing requirements for night operations.
- The airport is currently NOTAMed closed to night operations.

**Annual Inspection Report
Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport
Guntersville, Alabama**

July 20, 2011

Required Action

- NOTAM the airport closed to night operations until a lighted wind indicator has been placed on the airport.

**7. Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(7)**

State Licensing Standards

- Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions: All airport pavement surfaces associated with aircraft operations must be kept smooth and free of any defect or obstruction that could damage an aircraft. The lip of the airport pavement surfaces must not exceed three (3) inches in elevation from the top of the pavement to the shoulder. The drop should only be enough to allow sufficient drainage and not pose a control problem for aircraft exiting the runway. The aircraft parking apron is for the operation and parking of aircraft only and should be smooth and free of obstructions or defects that could cause damage to aircraft during operations.

Inspection Results

- The airport pavement surfaces were found to be in GOOD condition.

**8. Fueling Area Requirements
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(8)**

State Licensing Standards

- Signs should be posted prohibiting open flames or smoking in fueling areas. The fueling facility must be labeled indicating the type fuel being dispensed.
- Grounding cables must be available.
- A fire extinguisher approved for the purpose of extinguishing petroleum product fires available during all fueling operations.
- Serviceable hoses and connections that would preclude a rupture or leaking of fuel.

Inspection Results

- The fueling area meets the requirements established by the Alabama Department of Transportation. However, the State of Alabama

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

Department of Agriculture and Industries may have additional requirements for fueling systems that were not considered during this inspection.

- The fueling of 100LL is done from the fuel pumps. The Jet A is pumped from a fuel truck.

Photo 5



Fuel truck and pumps

9. Prohibited Activities Administrative Code 450-9-1-.16

State Licensing Standards

- Prohibited Activities: The use of any portion of the aircraft operations area, or airport property within the boundaries of the imaginary surfaces of a licensed airport for any purpose other than the operation of aircraft shall be deemed a non-aeronautical activity and is prohibited.

Inspection Results

- No prohibited activities were observed during the inspection.

**Annual Inspection Report
Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport
Guntersville, Alabama**

July 20, 2011

Summary

The table below summarizes items noted in this report.

INSPECTION SUMMARY

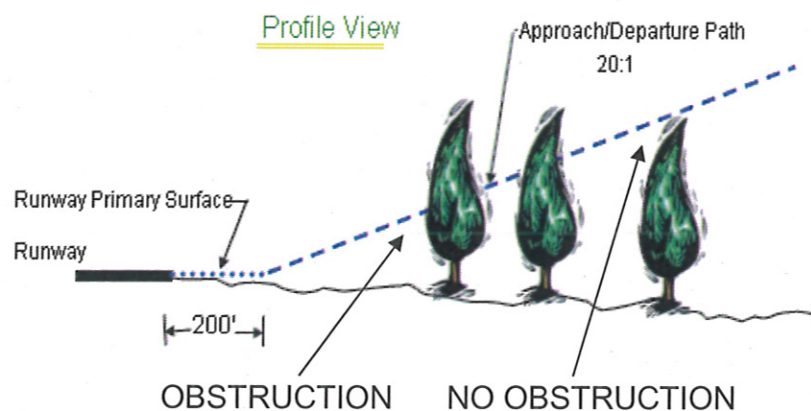
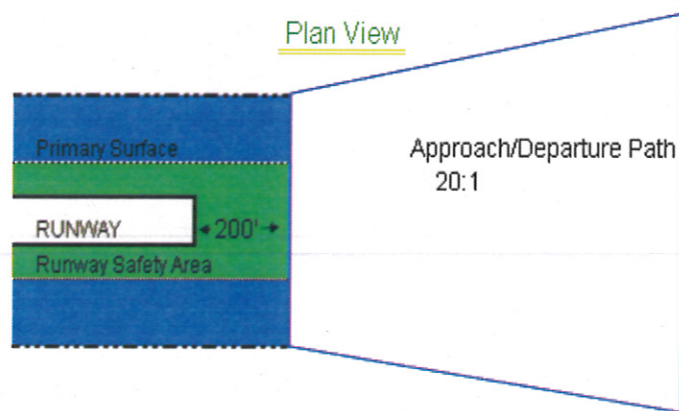
Inspection Area	Violation/Maintenance	Corrective Action
Airport Lighting	Maintenance - Windssock	NOTAM airport closed to night operations until a lighted wind indicator is placed on the airport

Please contact the Aeronautics Bureau of the Alabama Department of Transportation at (334) 242-6820 with questions concerning the Annual Inspection Report.

Annual Inspection Report Guntersville Municipal (Joe Starnes Field) Airport Guntersville, Alabama

July 20, 2011

Approach and Departure Path Dimensions			
Inner Width	Outer Width	Length	Acreage
250 Feet	450 Feet	1,000 Feet	8.04 Acres
Primary Surface Dimensions			
250 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline			
Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			
Runway Safety Area Dimensions			
120 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline			
Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			



APPENDIX 1